

National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC 20594

Brief of Accident

Adopted 09/20/2002

DEN02LA041		04/28/2002		Greeley, CO		Aircraft Reg No. N4730Q		Time (Local): 12:00 MDT					
Make/Model:		Cessna / A185E				Fatal		Serious		Minor/None			
Engine Make/Model:		Continental / IO-520-D1				Crew		0		0		2	
Aircraft Damage:		Substantial				Pass		0		0		0	
Number of Engines:		1											
Operating Certificate(s):		None											
Type of Flight Operation:		Instructional											
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:		Part 91: General Aviation											
Last Depart. Point:		Same as Accident/Incident Location				Condition of Light:		Day					
Destination:		Local Flight				Weather Info Src:		Weather Observation Facility					
Airport Proximity:		On Airport				Basic Weather:		Visual Conditions					
Airport Name:		Greeley-Weld County Airport				Lowest Ceiling:		None					
Runway Identification:		09				Visibility:		10.00 SM					
Runway Length/Width (Ft):		6210 / 100				Wind Dir/Speed:		010 / 004 Kts					
Runway Surface:		Asphalt				Temperature (°C):		18					
Runway Surface Condition:		Dry				Precip/Obscuration:		None / None					
Pilot-in-Command		Age: 65				Flight Time (Hours)							
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)						Total All Aircraft:		19100					
Flight Instructor; Commercial; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land						Last 90 Days:		176					
Instrument Ratings						Total Make/Model:		12000					
Airplane						Total Instrument Time:		806					

The pilot receiving instruction said, "Late in landing roll ... at approximately 25-30 mph brakes were applied and left brake failed due to ruptured brake line. Airplane veered right and ground-looped causing left wing tip and left elevator to contact runway." An examination of the airplane's left main landing gear showed that the left brake line was cracked, flattened, and leaking brake fluid.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

DEN02LA041  
File No. 12297                      04/28/2002                      Greeley, CO                      Aircraft Reg No. N4730Q                      Time (Local): 12:00 MDT

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Occurrence #1:      LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. BRAKES(NORMAL) - ACTIVATED - DUAL STUDENT
  2. (F) LANDING GEAR,NORMAL BRAKE SYSTEM - FAILURE,PARTIAL
  3. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - ENCOUNTERED
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Occurrence #2:      ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

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The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.  
the inadvertent ground loop during landing roll. A contributing factor was the partial brake system failure.